Education Support to the DOD—Worldwide

DANTES funds Internet-based DSST testing

ith the successful conclusion of the DANTES iBT DSST pilot and the award of a new multi-year contract with Thomson Prometric on 1 October, DANTES is now authorizing up-front funding of the Internet-Based (iBT) DSST® tests at national test centers. Similar to the CLEP eCBT computer-based testing program, DANTES only pays the test fee for the iBT DSSTs administered at on-campus national test centers and pays both the administration and test fee for those colleges/universities operating on-base under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the installation.

Thomson Prometric allows national test centers to administer both the paper-based and iBT DSST tests. DANTES only funds the 36 iBT DSST tests, which does not include the "Principles of Public Speaking." Examinees wishing to take "Principles of Public Speaking" and have DANTES pay for it will have to take it at a DANTES test site. This test will remain a paper-based test for the foreseeable future. To identify colleges/universities that administer the iBT DSST tests, go to the DSST Web site at http:// www.getcollegecredit.com and select "Military." From that page, you can search by state to identify both on-campus and on-base national test center locations that administer the iBT DSST tests.

Providing access to both the

CLEP and DSST tests as computerbased examination programs extends the advantages of computerbased testing to 80 percent of the DANTES Testing Program. With CLEP eCBT computer-based testing, the examinee can select from all 34 available test titles and, with the exception of "Principles of Public Speaking," the same examinee can select from the remaining 36 DSST tests. These combined test



titles, with the exception of the "English Composition with Essay" test, provide instant scoring and quicker score reporting services to colleges and universities. The examinee no longer has to wait four to six weeks as in the past to receive their test scores. Instant scoring allows examinees to more efficiently, both in terms of time and money, schedule the courses needed to complete their degree requirements. In addition to providing a higher quality of service to military and eligible civilian examinees, education centers are relieved of the

test administration responsibilities and related inventory reporting requirements.

For the existing 50 installations with on-base CLEP eCBT national test centers, we sent a draft addendum that expanded the current MOU to authorize iBT DSST testing through the on-base national test center. Education Service Officers interested in initiating a MOU for

> CLEP eCBT and iBT DSST onbase testing services should contact the Exam Programs at exams@voled.doded.mil and request a draft MOU that includes both testing programs. In the CLEP and DSST chapters of the FY07 edition of the DANTES Examination Program Handbook, additional information is provided regarding the on-base national test center requirements.

Without the willingness of the four Service education centers at Andrews AFB, Fort Stewart,

Naval Air Station Jacksonville and Quantico Marine Corps Base to participate in the iBT DSST pilot, DANTES would not have been able to expand the on-base national test center program to include the iBT DSSTs. We sincerely appreciate their contribution as well as the combined efforts of the DANTES Information Technology staff and Thomson Prometric.

Testing Calendar

October 2006

6 Excelsior Extended Response (Essay)

November 2006

6-11 GRE Subject *
9, 14, 16 ASE (CONUS)
14-16 ASE (Overseas)
18-22 Praxis *

December 2006

1 Excelsior Extended
Response (Essay)
2 LSAT
4-9 GRE Subject

January 2007

13-17 Praxis *

Notes:

Overseas test centers send orders six weeks before the test date. CONUS test centers send orders four weeks before the test date. Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test date.

*Select only one test date from the published period for DANTES testing and specify that date on the order form.

Online calendar:

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/examinations/06-07cal.pdf

Want the DIB via e-mail?

If you would like the DANTES Information Bulletin (DIB) e-mailed to you every month, e-mail Publications at pubs@voled.doded.mil.

The DIB is also available on the DANTES homepage at http://www.dantes.doded.mil.

Inventory submission via Web-DATIP

All stocking DANTES Test Centers (except active duty Air Force) are required to electronically submit their 4th Quarter FY06 DANTES Inventory Reports using the Web-based DANTES Automated Inventory Program (DATIP). You will receive an e-mail notice on 27 September and again on 5 October if you have not submitted your inventory by 5 October. The late reporting period is 6-10 October.

Steps for submitting your inventory: (Only the TCO or ATCO can initiate the quarterly report process)

- Step 1 Click on Reports on the Tool Bar and select Quarterly.
- Step 2 Select 30 September and Click on "View and Print"
- Step 3 Conduct your physical inventory of the tests with the printed copy.
- Step 4 Click on Reports on the Tool Bar and select "Submit Inventory" (This link is only available from 27 Sep 10 Oct)

Step 5 - Click on "Yes" on the Inventory Submission screen, if all tests currently reported in DATIP are correct. This electronically forwards your inventory reports to DANTES. On 6 and 11 October respectively, we batch and forward these reports to the testing agencies for reconciliation.

No quarterly inventory can be submitted after 10 October. **Test Centers** failing to submit their inventory by 10 October will be suspended effective 11 October 2006.

Thomson Prometric signs MOU

Dantes recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Thomson Prometric. The intent of the MOU is to assist installation education centers interested in establishing a direct agreement with Thomson Prometric to offer computer-based-testing. Education centers that desire to enter into a direct agreement with Thomson Prometric will be guided by their local Information Management Officer (IMO) and command policy on how they can use Thomson Prometric software to access and administer certification or licensure exams to authorized personnel. There is software required and provided by Thomson Prometric that may or may not be installed on government computers - again, local policy would determine this. The MOU between DANTES and Thomson Prometric attempts to only support those education centers that are interested in forming an agreement with Thomson Prometric and thereby assist with meeting the increasing demand for certification or licensure examinations.

TCOs interested in establishing an agreement with Thomson Prometric can find a copy of their connection requirements and instructions on the DANTES Web site http://www.dantes.doded.mil, under "Certification Program."

TCO Workshop – February in Atlanta

A DANTES Test Control Officer Workshop will be held 6-8 February 2007 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel, located at 265 Peachtree Center Avenue, Atlanta, Ga. For consideration for a slot in this workshop, contact Education Programs Department at (850) 452-1111 x3128 or DSN 922-1111 X3128. For more information, visit http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes web/training/workshops.htm.

SOC college workshops

The schedule of regional workshops by Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) for October 2006 through June 2007 follows:

• Thursday, 19 October 2006, SOC College Consortium Workshop, Capella University, Minneapolis, Minn.



- Monday, 22 January 2007, SOC Degree Network System Workshop for current SOC Degree Network System institutions, a Pre-Conference event to the 2007 Council of College and Military Educators (CCME)
 Symposium, Monterey, Calif., focused on implementing the redesign of the SOC Degree Network System.
- February 2007, SOC College Consortium Workshop and SOC Degree Network System Workshop, San Diego, Calif., TBA.
- March 2007, SOC College Consortium Workshop and SOC Degree Network System Workshop, Dallas/Arlington/Fort Worth, Texas, TBA.
- Tuesday, 24 April 2007 SOC College Consortium Workshop, Marine Corps Base, Kaneohe, Hawaii, hosted by Hawaii Pacific University.
- Wednesday, 25 April 2007, SOC Degree Network System Workshop, Marine Corps Base, Kaneohe, Hawaii, hosted by Hawaii Pacific University.
- May 2007, SOC College Consortium Workshop and SOC Degree Network System Workshop, Norfolk, Va., TBA.
- June 2007, SOC College Consortium Workshop and SOC Degree Network System Workshop, SOC Building, 1307 New York Ave., Washington, D.C., TBA. For the latest information, visit the SOC Web site: http://www.soc.aascu.org.

ISACA signs new MOU

The Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) is the newest certifying association that recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DANTES.

ISACA is an international not-forprofit association representing more than 50,000 information governance, control, security and audit professionals worldwide in over 140 countries and in over 170 chapters. ISACA offers certification in two areas:

- Certified Information Security Auditor
- Certified Information Security Manager

ISACA meets the required standards to hold the American National Standard Institute (ANSI) for their certifications under ISO/IEC 17024:2003. DANTES is proud to add ISACA to the list of quality credentials available for offering at base education centers or national test centers to military personnel.

To learn more about ISACA please visit their Web site at: http://www.isaca.org/template.cfm?section=home.

Student award program deadline in October

The National Association of Institutions for Military Education Services (NAIMES) announces the annual NAIMES Student Spotlight Award program. This program offers an opportunity for interested active duty military students to demonstrate their scholarly competency and skills learned while participating in the Voluntary Education program.

The award recognizes a student,

undergraduate or graduate, who demonstrates excellent academic achievement in pursuit of their civilian postsecondary education. Any student, regardless of branch, rank, university affiliation, is eligible to submit an application and project to compete for the \$1,200 award.

The deadline for receipt of projects, including application, resume and letters of reference is 10 October. Final selection will be made during the NAIMES General Membership meeting held in early December. The Student Spotlight Award winner will be notified no later than 15 December.

For an application and more information, call (907) 450-8144 or visit http://www.alaska.edu/studentservices/military/index.xml.

DANTES External Degree Catalog news

New schools affiliated with DANTES:

Drexel University – College of Medicine 245 North 15th Street Philadelphia, PA 19102 215-762-2141 Fax: 215-762-8893

E-mail: wlh23@drexel.edu

Internet: http://www.drexel.edu

Master of Science in Clinical Research Organization

and Management

Clarion University of Pennsylvania 840 Wood Street Clarion, PA 16214

814-393-2774 Toll Free: 1-866-272-5612 Fax: 814-393-2779 E-mail: lfleisher@clarion.edu Internet: http://www.clarion.edu/academic/distance /index.shtml

- Certificate in Instructional Technology Specialist

- Associate of Arts: Arts and Sciences

Early Childhood Education

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Degree Completion Program

- Master of Science: Library Science

Rehabilitative Science Business Administration

Catalog of Nationally Accredited Distance Learning Programs news

Ashworth College

The Associate Degree Programs of Ashworth College have recently been approved for Federal VA educational benefits. Ashworth College is nationally accredited by the Distance Education and Training Council (DETC) and currently offers 13 degree programs, in the areas of: Accounting, Business Management, Computer Information Management, Construction Management, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Finance, Health Care Management, Human Resource Management, Marketing, Paralegal Studies, Psychology and Security Management. No campus attendance is necessary, as all Ashworth College programs are completed through independent study and online learning at the student's own pace. The Ashworth College Web site address is: http://www.ashworthcollege.edu.

Western Governors University announces Troops to Teachers scholarships

Western Governors University (WGU) (http://www.wgu.edu) is offering supplemental \$1,500 scholarships to students participating in Troops to Teachers and Spouse to Teachers programs managed through the Department of Defense by Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Support (DANTES). Bachelor and master degree programs are offered by WGU's Teachers College. WGU will allow recipients to apply \$300 of the scholarship money per six-month term at WGU, renewable up to five terms. These scholarships will allow current or former military personnel to begin new careers, utilize their knowledge and experience in the classroom, and have a positive impact on our nation's young people.

Getting a degree at WGU is convenient and accessible since WGU is a fully-accredited online university, and is competency-based. WGU students earn their degrees by demonstrating their competency and skills in various disciplines by taking a series of carefully designed assessments. Degrees are earned at the student's own pace, at times and places that are convenient to them.

The Spouses to Teachers Program is only available to registered spouses earning a teacher certification in one of the following 14 pilot states — California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Texas, Virginia, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Louisiana, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Visit http://www.wgu.edu/ttt for more information on criteria and applications.



DANTES staff members participated in the 13th annual United Way Day of Caring on Sept. 15 and helped beautify a local elementary school in Pensacola, Fla.

Troops to Teacher alumni Williams is "American Star of Teaching"

Army and Navy veteran David Williams became the third Troops to Teacher to earn a national teaching honor when he was presented with the American Star of Teaching award for the state of Oklahoma. The award is sponsored by Department of Education's Teacher-to-Teacher initiative, rewarding teachers for using innovative teaching strategies and raising student academic achievement. Only one teacher per state, along with the District of Columbia, is selected for the award from about 4,000 applications.

The award was presented at a surprise ceremony at the Sequoya Auditorium at the state capital in Oklahoma City. Carolyn Snowbarger, the director of the Teacher-to-Teacher initiative, and U.S. Representative Ernest Istook presented the award.

"Teachers like David Williams

never give up on a child,"
Snowbarger said in a statement.
"They believe every child, regardless of race, income or zip code, can achieve high standards in school."

Williams taught fifth grade at Walters Elementary School in Lawton, located in the southwestern part of the state near the Texas border, before switching to Trinity Christian Academy this year. He served for a total of 22 years in the Army and Navy, including service in Iraq during the Persian Gulf War.

Troops to Teachers is a Department of Defense and Department of Education program helping eligible military members begin new careers as public school teachers by providing counseling, information and financial incentives. More than 9,200 teachers have been hired through the program, which is managed by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education

Support (DANTES).

Last
December, Air
Force
veteran
Daniel
Leija won
the 2005-



David Williams

06 American Star of Teaching award for Texas. Leija is a fourth-grade teacher at San Antonio's Gregoria Esperanza Elementary School. Also last December, Eric Combs was selected Ohio's 2006 teacher of the year. Combs – who teaches history at Fairborn High – and Leija entered the teaching profession through Troops to Teachers.

For more information on the program, visit http://www.ProudtoServeAgain.com.

Spouses to Teachers now available in Europe

Spouses to Teachers is now available in Europe, offering resources and counseling to overseas military spouses interested in a professional and portable teaching career.

The Department of Defense program provides counseling and guidance on state-specific certification requirements, certification options and state employment resources. Up to \$600 also is available to reimburse the costs of testing fees associated with teacher certification/licensure. Participants in Europe and the Far East will receive



certification counseling and assistance for CONUS.

Stateside, the pilot program currently is offered in 14 states: California, Colorado,

Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Utah and South Carolina.

More than 300 military spouses have found teaching jobs in the U.S. and overseas by utilizing the program and more than 1,000 have been reimbursed for teacher certification exams.

Navy spouse Dawn Weisman is stationed in Naples, Italy, and

recently took advantage of Spouses to Teachers.

"I hope after three years living in Europe, I am able to pass on my love of history to students and increase their knowledge of history of the United States as well as the world," she said.

Eligible participants include spouses of active duty personnel, Selected Reserve and National Guard, and Individual Ready Reserve recalled to active duty.

Spouses to Teachers is managed by DANTES and can be reached at (800) 231-6282, DSN 922-6282,

http://

www.SpousestoTeachers.com, or stt@voled.doded.mil.

From the Advisor's Desk

Get SMART

by MGySgt James O'Keefe, DANTES Special Enlisted Advisor



MGySgt O'Keefe

While reminiscent of the once popular TV show (starring Don Adams), the above title is more importantly a reminder to all Service members.

I'm often asked, "How do I review and update my Sailor/Marine Academic Registry Transcript (SMART)?" When it comes to transcripts, it's each individual's responsibility to "get SMART." This means locating and, if needed, updating missing or erroneous transcript information through the SMART Operations Center.

According to the American Council on Education (ACE), SMART transcripts "list personal student data courses, and occupations evaluated by ACE, including descriptions, learning outcomes, and equivalent college credit recommendations, as well as national collegelevel exam results. SMART transcripts are endorsed by ACE, carry the official ACE seal, and are regularly monitored for quality assurance by ACE." In short, the

SMART assists Sailors and Marines in obtaining college credit for their military experience.

Information on how to access and update the SMART is found at https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/transcript.html.

Although the SMART is the transcript specifically for Sailors and Marines, each Service has transcripts. For information on Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard military program transcripts, visit:

- Army: http://aarts.army.mil
- Air Force Community College of the Air Force (CCAF): http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/ ccaf/transcripts.asp
- Coast Guard: The Coast Guard Institute: http://www.uscg.mil/ hq/cgi/forms.html
- For DSST and CLEP transcript information (all Services): http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/examinations/transcripts.htm#Before.

For a complete list of all courses and occupations ACE has evaluated for the Services, access the Military Guide online at http://www.militaryguides.acenet.edu.



When it comes to working a degree plan where ACE-recommended credit can save time and money, it pays for the military student to - get SMART!

Thanks for all you do for our Service members!

iTunes U grows

In 2005, Apple, Inc. created a Web site dedicated to maintaining audio and video recordings of classroom instruction over the Internet. The Web site is accessible at http://www.apple.com/education/solutions/itunes_u and is offered by Apple to institutions to use at no charge. University of Michigan, University of Wisconsin,

Stanford University and Duke University all participated in a pilot program last year.

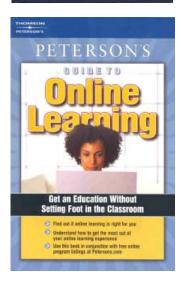
This year, a number of other institutions including George Washington University, Oregon State University, Radford University, University of California Berkeley, University of Hawaii, University of Missouri, and University of Tennes-

see joined the group, allowing even more students the opportunity to download recorded lectures, music, art and language lessons to their computers or iPods. While Service members may need to use their own personal computers due to security downloading issues on military computers, the big plus for students is MOBILITY, making education portable and accessible any place and any time.

Two new reference publications are available

Degree Mills – The Billion-Dollar Industry That Has Sold Over a Million Fake Diplomas is being distributed

Degree
Mills
The Billon-Dollar Industry
That Has Sold Over a Million Fake Diplomas
Allen Ezell and John Bear



to all education centers. Recently, the authors, Allen Ezell and John Bear, spoke at the Department of Defense Worldwide Education Symposium 2006. The book describes how more than 300 active degree mills sell thousands of worthless diplomas each week, including medical and law degrees. Allen Ezell specialized in degree fraud with the FBI. John Bear is a prolific author and expert witness on the subject in federal and state courts.

The book is intended as a personal reference for education center staff. This distribution is not for individual handout to education center clients. This is a limited one-time distribution. Initially, one copy and a cover letter of instructions were sent. Education centers may order additional copies by

e-mailing refpubs@voled.doded.mil. Please include in the e-mail: DANTES ID number, Degree Mills, and the number of additional copies requested. For further information and the cover letter, please see the Military Counselor WebBoard topic: Degree Mills.

Five DANTES staff members participated in the annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Golf Tournament on Sept. 8 in Pensacola, Fla.
Over 130 golfers raised \$6,600 for CFC. (Pictured L to R: Van Kirkland, Cecil Mitchell, Vince Harmon, Ron Lee, and Bob Berkley.

The other new addition to the DANTES Reference Publications program is Peterson's *Guide to Online Learning*. With the increased online learning participation, this book is intended primarily as a personal reference for education center staff and secondarily as a possible handout for clients. The book's back cover sums up the six parts of the book:

"Everything You Need to Know to Make Online Learning Work for You:

- · What is Online Learning All About?
- · What Are My Options?
- · How Does Online Learning Work?
- · Who Offers Online Learning?
- · Why Should I Consider Online Learning?
- · Wow! When Do I Start?"

This is the initial distribution with limited copies. To order copies, e-mail the DANTES Distribution Center, dist@voled.doded.mil. Include your DANTES ID number, current shipping address, request DANTES Stock #2449 (Guide to Online Learning), and the quantity requested. Currently, the maximum limit is 25 copies in a 12-month period.

Since this is a new DANTES Reference Publication program acquisition, your comments are invited. Is this a good reference for your staff? Clients? If yes, how many copies would you like to order during a 12-month period?

Post your comments on the Military Counselor WebBoard under the topic: Guide to Online Learning or e-mail refpubs@voled.doded.mil. Please click on the Military Counselor WebBoard topic Guide to Online Learning for the cover letter that accompanied the initial one copy of the book.



Advisory Councils on Military Education (ACMEs) announce conferences

COMESC (Council on Military Education in South Carolina) will hold its fall conference on 15-17 November 2006. The conference theme is "Educating America's Service Members in S.C." and the keynote speaker will be a member of the South Carolina Legislature, The Honorable Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr. Conference registration is \$75 if paid by 27 October. Further information can be found on the COMESC Web page at http://comesc.org or http://

The 2007 Council of College & Military Educators (CCME) Symposium will be held at the Portola Plaza Hotel in Monterey, Calif. from

22-25 January. The theme for this year's conference is "Joint Patriots...Driving Transformation."

Keynote speaker is Leslye Arsht, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (MC&FP). The draft agenda and a link to online registration is at https://www.ccmeonline.org/info.shtml. The registration fee is \$275 if paid by 3 January 2007.

Carol Berry, President of Virginia's ACME, has announced that their inaugural conference will be on 14 and 15 March 2007, at the Holiday Inn Patriot in Williamsburg, Va.

Texas and the South ACME – The Council on Military Education and the South (COMETS) conference is

scheduled for 11-13 April 2007, in Corpus Christi, Texas. Check their Web site for details as they become available at

http://www.sa.wbu.edu/comets/home.htm.

Florida ACME – Florida's Advisory Council on Military Education has their annual conference planned for 16-18 April 2007. The tentative location is Key West, Fla. Their Web site at

http://www.fla-acme.org will be updated as further information is known.

Please direct any questions or send ACME update information to *training@voled.doded.mil*.

DANTES 6490 SAUFLEY FIELD ROAD PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5243 http://www.dantes.doded.mil

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The Secretary of the Navy has determined this publication necessary in the transaction of business required by law of the Department of the Navy. Funds for printing this publication have been approved by the Navy Publications and Printing policy committee.

Jeffrey P. Cropsey, Ed.D., Director Victoria Street, Editor pubs@voled.doded.mil New telephone numbers are:
DSN 922-1111 (plus extension); CML (850) 452-1111 (plus extension)

Office <u>E</u>	xtension	<u>Fax</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Director's Office	3150	1159	dantes@voled.doded.mil
Enlisted Advisor	3153	1159	ea@voled.doded.mil
Reserve Advisor	3127	1159	rca@voled.doded.mil
Web Site		1322	dantes_webmaster@voled.doded.mil
European Advisor	011-49-6202-8	80-6008	dantes@hq.hqusareur.army.mil
Far East Advisor	011-822-7915-5581		fareast@voled.doded.mil
Troops to Teachers	3141	1096	ttt@voled.doded.mil
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Distance Learning	3129	1161	dstlearn@voled.doded.mil
Tuition Assistance	3130	1161	tahelp@voled.doded.mil
Certification	3194	1005	certprog@voled.doded.mil